

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /026 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 167874

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MY, SN, UK, US

SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN REQUEST FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY
EQUIPMENT/SINGAPORE NAVAL FACILITIES

REFS: A) KUALA LUMPUR 4074 B) KUALA LUMPUR 4150
C) SINGAPORE 3035

1. FOR KUALA LUMPUR. EA HAS HELD LAST-MINUTE REVIEW WITH DOD MEMBERS OF TEAM PRIOR THEIR DEPARTURE. WE NOTED SHIFT IN EMPHASIS ON MALAYSIAN SIDE FROM RAZAK'S INITIAL EX-PRESSION OF INTEREST IN BOTH TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT TO LATER GHAZALI EMPHASIS ON PROCUREMENT OF SPECIFIC ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT. TEAM WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS IN A GENERAL WAY PURCHASING PROCEDURES, PRICES, ETC., BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY HOPES TO HAVE DIALOGUE WITH GOM REGARDING THEIR NEEDS IN COUNTERINSURGENCY AREA RATHER THAN MERELY DISCUSSING SHOPPING LIST.

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2. TEAM WILL NOT BE IN POSITION TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF

FUNDING ANY MALAYSIAN PURCHASES. THIS WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED IN WASHINGTON SUBSEQUENT TO TEAM'S VISIT WHEN TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS ARE STUDIED AND A FIRM PROPOSAL IS DRAWN UP.

3. TEAM WILL BE INTERESTED IN BRIEFINGS FROM GOM ON THEIR ASSESSMENT OF COUNTERINSURGENCY THREAT AND HOW GOM IS DEALING WITH IT. WHAT FORCES (POLICE, MILITARY) ARE AVAILABLE TO DEAL WITH THE INSURGENTS, AND WHAT ARE THE GOM'S INTENTIONS IN THIS REGARD? IF TIME PERMITS, TEAM WOULD ALSO WELCOME OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT COUNTER-INSURGENCY TRAINING CENTER.

4. WITH REGARD REF B, WE WANT TO KEEP TEAM'S VISIBILITY AS LOW AS POSSIBLE AND TO ATTRACT MINIMUM ATTENTION. WITH THIS IN MIND, WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST IF DEFENSE ATTACHE RATHER THAN CHARGE MET ADMIRAL CROWE ON ARRIVAL.

5. SIKORSKY WASHINGTON REP PHONED DEPTOFF JULY 15 TO RELAY STORY FROM KUALA LUMPUR THAT USG INTENDED GIVE LARGE NUMBER OF HELICOPTERS TO MALAYSIA, THEREBY CUTTING INTO SIKORSKY'S PROSPECTS OF CONCLUDING SALE. DEPTOFF TOLD HIM HE AWARE OF NO PLANS TO PROVIDE GRANT MILITARY EQUIPMENT OF ANY SORT TO MALAYSIA.

6. FOR SINGAPORE. TEAM WILL BE PREPARED GENERALLY TO DISCUSS ITEMS MENTIONED REF C. ADMIRAL CROWE WILL BE IN LONDON JULY 18 EN ROUTE TO KUALA LUMPUR AND SINGAPORE, AND WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH RN AUTHORITIES PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD IN LONDON 10806 AND 7941. HE LOOKS FORWARD TO SUBSEQUENT THOROUGH REVIEW OF SUBJECT WITH EMBASSY SINGAPORE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COUNTERINSURGENCY, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE167874
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WSSHEPARD:ECINGRAHAM:CCH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750246-0301
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750749/aaaabsav.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 KUALA LUMPUR 4074, 75 KUALA LUMPUR 4150
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAYSIAN REQUEST FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY EQUIPMENT/SINGAPORE NAVAL FACILITIES
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MY, SN, UK, US
To: SINGAPORE KUALA LUMPUR
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006